

SITUATION REPORT NO. 61
INCIDENT NO. 97-015
DATE: August 21, 1997 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring flood statewide.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: The level of Devils Lake at Creel Bay was at 1442.80 feet MSL on August 21, 1997.
4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The N.D. Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced on August 15 that a total of \$27.3 million has been approved to date for the acquisition of up to 400 substantially flood-damaged homes and structures. The projects were submitted to the Division and then to FEMA under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The FEMA share of these projects totals \$20.5 million while the state and local shares amount to \$6.8 million. The Division and FEMA announced that most recently approved acquisition projects include a \$5.5 million plan to acquire flood-damaged homes in Fargo and a \$7.1 million project to acquire flood damaged homes in Cass County. Other acquisition projects that have received approval include a \$800,000 project in Wahpeton, and a \$13.9 million project in Grand Forks.

FEMA Community Relations staff members are assisting the city of Grand Forks with a questionnaire asking residents to list their priorities for the city's recovery. Staff members are hoping to meet with 500 residents; to date, 130 surveys have been completed.

Of the 36,494 North Dakotans who reported personal property damages to the National Teleregistration Center (NTC), 24,244 eligible applicants have received nearly \$51 million in Disaster Housing assistance.

The Individual and Family Grant Program (IFG), administered by the Division of Emergency Management, has approved \$11 million in grants to individuals for flood losses. The average IFG

grant is \$1,371. The number of applications approved as of close of business August 20, 1997, is 8,060.

To date, the Public Assistance staff has prepared Damage Survey Reports (DSRs) for the 1997 flood for more than \$75.3 million of infrastructure repairs, emergency work and debris removal in the state.

As of August 20, Job Service North Dakota has paid nearly \$4.33 million in Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). The agency has received 8,277 DUA applications.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved to date more than \$161 million in low-interest loans for businesses and individuals. The SBA has received 11,477 loan applications, 6,589 of which have been approved. Of the loans, 58 percent were to home owners and renters for real estate and personal property losses, and 42 percent were to business owners for repairs to businesses and for lost income.

The Disaster Field Office (DFO) in Devils Lake closed on August 16, 1997. The DFO's still remain open in Bismarck, Jamestown, Fargo, and Grand Forks.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Other web site addresses for flood recovery information include:

N.D. Division of Emergency Management: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>
N.D. League of Cities: <http://www.ndlc.org>
N.D. State Water Commission: <http://water.swc.state.nd.us>
N.D. Attorney General Office: <http://www.state.nd.us/ndag>
N.D. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.state.nd.us/agr/>
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: <http://www.ncs-wc.usace.army.mil>
U.S. Geological Survey: <http://srv1dndbmk.cr.usgs.gov/public/index.html>

Douglas C. Friez, State Director